

Table 106.—General Educational Development (GED) test takers, and number and distribution of credentials issued, by age: 1971 to 2001

Year	Number of test takers, in thousands ¹	Number completing test battery, in thousands ²	Number of credentials issued, in thousands ³	Percentage distribution of credentials issued, ⁴ by age				
				19 years old or less	20- to 24-year-olds	25- to 29-year-olds	30- to 34-year-olds	35 years old or over
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1971 ⁵	377	—	227	—	—	—	—	—
1972 ⁵	419	—	245	—	—	—	—	—
1973 ⁵	423	—	249	—	—	—	—	—
1974	—	—	294	35	27	13	9	17
1975	—	—	340	33	26	14	9	18
1976	—	—	333	31	28	14	10	17
1977	—	—	332	40	24	13	8	14
1978	—	—	381	31	27	13	10	18
1979	—	—	426	37	28	12	13	11
1980	—	—	479	37	27	13	8	15
1981	—	—	489	37	27	13	8	14
1982	—	—	486	37	28	13	8	15
1983	—	—	465	34	29	14	8	15
1984	—	—	427	32	28	15	9	16
1985	—	—	413	32	26	15	10	16
1986	—	—	428	32	26	15	10	17
1987	—	—	444	33	24	15	10	18
1988	—	—	410	35	22	14	10	18
1989	632	541	357	35	24	13	—	—
1990	714	615	410	36	25	13	10	15
1991	755	657	462	33	28	13	10	16
1992	739	639	457	33	28	13	9	17
1993	746	651	469	33	27	13	10	16
1994	774	668	491	36	25	13	9	15
1995	787	682	504	38	25	13	9	15
1996	824	716	488	39	25	13	9	14
1997	785	681	460	43	24	12	8	13
1998	776	673	481	44	24	11	7	13
1999	808	702	498	44	25	11	7	13
2000	811	699	487	45	25	11	7	13
2001	1,016	928	648	41	26	11	8	14

—Not available.

¹ Number of people taking the GED tests (one or more subtests).² Number of people completing the entire GED battery of five tests.³ Number of people receiving high school equivalency credentials based on the GED tests.⁴ Data for 1988 and prior years are for number of test takers and may not be comparable to later years.⁵ Includes outlying areas.

NOTE: Data are for United States only and exclude outlying areas. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Some data have been revised from previously published figures.

SOURCE: American Council on Education, General Educational Development Testing Service, *Who took the GED? Statistical Report*, various years. (This table was prepared September 2002.)